



# BIOGRAPHY



## ***UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS***

### **COLONEL LAURA SAMPSEL**

Colonel Laura Jersey Sampsel is the 33rd Maintenance Group Commander, Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. The group is responsible for the bed-down and operational readiness of the three variants of the Joint Strike Fighter F-35 aircraft. The primary mission is to enable the production of pilots and maintainers for future training and combat units. The group directs the actions of logistics personnel across 36 facilities in three diverse squadrons and has oversight of all aircraft maintenance, sortie generation, weapons loading, munitions operations and logistics integration for the 33rd Fighter Wing.

Commissioned in May 1983, Colonel Sampsel was promoted to her current grade in April 2005. She has completed assignments as an aviation supply officer, aviation maintenance officer, operations officer, instructor, planner and programmer. Her duty stations include Headquarters & Maintenance Squadron-14, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (MAW); Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron (MALS)-14, 2nd MAW; MALS-12, 1st MAW; MALS-13, 3rd MAW; Navy Supply Corps School; U.S. Central Command J-5; and Marine Forces Pacific (MARFORPAC). While at MARFORPAC, Colonel Sampsel was deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom as the Aviation Logistics Department Head, Marine Forces, Central Command. Additionally, she deployed as the Deputy Director, CENTCOM Deployment and Distribution Operations Center in support of OIF, OEF and JTFHOA. As a lieutenant colonel, Colonel Sampsel commanded MALS-24 and prior to her current assignment, Colonel Sampsel commanded the Defense Logistics Information Service (DLIS).



Colonel Sampsel earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science from Vanderbilt University (Cum Laude), a Master of Arts degree in Economics from the University of Oklahoma and a Master's of Science degree in National Resource Strategy from the National Defense University. She graduated from the Marine Aviation Supply Officer School and Aircraft Maintenance Officer School; U.S. Air Force Command and Staff College; the Armed Forces Staff College and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. She is a certified Joint Services Officer (JSO).

Colonel Sampsel wears the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with gold star, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal with two gold stars, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Navy Unit Commendation, Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation with bronze star, National Defense Service Medal with bronze star, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Award, Navy Sea Service Deployment ribbon with bronze star and Navy Arctic Service ribbon.

(Current as of July 2010)